

Test Administration Considerations Regarding CoVID-19

Purpose

This resource serves to highlight special test administration considerations given the CoVID-19 pandemic. However, defer to local health department, school district, and state policy measures when considering the information herein.

Review of Standard Test Administration Practices

The Dynamic Learning Maps® (DLM®) alternate assessment is administered one-to-one between the test administrator and the student, since testlets vary from student to student, and the students who participate in the assessment often require the test administrator's focused attention and assistance. While others are permitted to be in the room as a testlet is administered, the assessment's security measures must be upheld, and distractions minimized. Only the test administrator and the student being assessed are to have access to the assessment device screen and testlet content.

Logistical Considerations

Physical Distancing

Due to the CoVID-19 pandemic, additional considerations regarding physical distancing and masks should be planned in order to keep both the student and the test administrator safe. The typical arrangement for test administration is for the student to be situated in front of the assessment device with the test administrator seated next to the student. Physical distancing should be practiced even when the test administrator is reading the testlet content to the student, presenting materials to the student, or helping the student navigate through the testlet and/or key in response options. Projecting the testlet onto an interactive whiteboard is one way to help maintain physical distancing.

Coexisting Medical Conditions

Further considerations are necessary for students who have coexisting medical conditions. These considerations must be handled on a case-by-case basis since medical conditions present a wide variety of needs and precautions, regardless of CoVID-19.

Additional Test Administrators and Safety Training

Training more test administrators than usual may help expedite safely assessing students. All test administrators may need additional training regarding local health department, school district, and/or state policies as well as the DLM assessment's allowable practices.

Scheduling

Scheduling assessment sessions by appointment may be necessary, especially if a testlet is to be administered in a computer room rather than the test administrator's own classroom, in order to limit contact with others in high traffic areas for both social distancing precautions as well as for further test security protection. Test administrators may need to collaborate and determine a schedule that ensures adequate time to administer a testlet to a student and sanitize any shared materials or equipment between sessions.

Sanitizing Objects and Equipment

Substitutions for objects and materials specified on a Testlet Information Page (TIP) are usually allowed and indicated on the TIP. Consider using hard objects that can be easily sanitized, objects personal to the student that can be easily sanitized, or disposable objects in compliance with local health department, school district, and/or state policies. The testing environment should be cleaned before and after each assessment session.

Summary

Think about student and test administrator health and safety, in compliance with local health department, school district, and/or state policies, while maintaining test security.

Coordinate test administrator schedules, and train additional test administrators if needed.

Schedule assessment sessions to limit contact with others in high traffic areas, to further protect test security, and to allow time for cleaning between sessions, in compliance with local health department, school district, and/or state policies.